

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Examiner's letter mailed February 3, 2005, restriction to one of the following inventions has been required under 35USC121 to the following listed Groups:

Group I. Claims 1-5 and claims 7-8, drawn to a process and apparatus for compressing a loading rain in a chamber to apply overburden pressured to a core sample, classified in class 73, subclass 38.

Group II. Claim 6, drawn to applying lithostatic pressure due to overburden independent of the overburden into a core sample, classified in class 73, subclass 37.

Applicant hereby provisionally elects Group I.

This election is made without traverse.

CONCLUSION

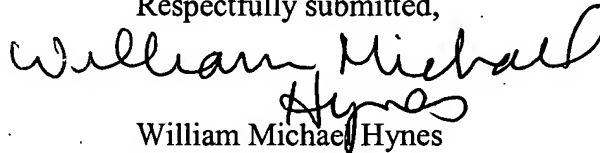
In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

Appl. No. 10/757,111
Reply to Office Action of February 3, 2005

PATENT

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William Michael Hynes". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

William Michael Hynes
Reg. No. 24,168

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